

STRAIN, DENNIS & BATES, L.L.P.

ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW

318 ST. CHARLES STREET
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70802
TELEPHONE (225) 343-0100
FAX (225) 343-0344
E-MAIL STRAIN@SDMBLAW.COM

1018 HARDING STREET, SUITE 104
P. O. BOX 53319
LAFAYETTE, LOUISIANA 70505-3319
TELEPHONE (337) 237-5900
FAX (337) 233-9095

WILLIAM S. STRAIN*
PARTNER
BATON ROUGE OFFICE
* Also Admitted In Texas

P. O. BOX 550407
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77255
TELEPHONE: (713) 681-9746
FAX (713) 681-9747

March 24, 2005

Honorable James H. Welsh
Commissioner of Conservation
Post Office Box 94275
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804

Re: Planulina 1-3 Zone, Reservoir A, Back
Ridge Field, Cameron Parish,
Louisiana

Dear Commissioner Welsh:

Application is hereby made on behalf Betsy Mecom, et al to the Commissioner of Conservation for the calling of a public hearing after legal notice to consider evidence relative to the issuance of orders pertaining to the following matters relative to the Planulina 1-3 Zone, Reservoir A, Back Ridge Field, Cameron Parish, Louisiana:

1. To dissolve the unit created by Office of Conservation Order No. 1249-C, effective August 5, 2003, and to simultaneously, create a single drilling and production unit for the Planulina 1-3 Zone, Reservoir A, designated as the PLAN 1-3 RA SU A, as shown on the plat attached hereto;
2. To force pool and integrate all separately owned tracts, mineral leases and other property interests within the unit so created on a surface acre basis of participation;
3. To designate a unit well and unit operator for the unit so created;

4. To allow the Commissioner of Conservation to reclassify the reservoir by supplemental order, without the necessity of a public hearing, should the producing characteristics of the reservoir change and evidence to justify reclassification is submitted to and accepted by the Commissioner of Conservation;
5. To consider such other matters as may be pertinent to the Planulina 1-3 Zone, Reservoir A.

The conference was held as scheduled, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. In attendance were the parties on the attached list. The conference was opened by William Strain, attorney, representing the applicant, who, after introductory remarks, turned the conference over to Mr. Louis Gilbert, the applicant's consulting geologist. Mr. Gilbert presented the geological and other bases for the applicant's proposal, and then answered questions posed by the attendees. Since the parties had agreed that this would be a joint Pre-Application conference for the Applicant, and a Pre-Hearing conference for Manti Operating Company, who filed an emergency Application for a different unit configuration, and to split the zone definition into two intervals, with separate units for each interval, Mr. Strain then turned the conference over to Mr. David L. Smelley, attorney for Manti. After introductory remarks, Mr. Smelley turned the conference over to Mr. David Comeaux, consulting geologist for Manti, who presented the geological and other bases for Manti's proposal. Mr. Comeaux then answered questions posed by the attendees. Mr. David Sturlese, consulting geologist representing Henry, et al, expressed support for Manti's proposal. The main differences between the Applicant' proposal, and the proposals of Manti are whether the zone definition should be maintained, or split into two intervals, with a separate unit for each, the size of the unit(s), and the northern unit boundary. All parties were deemed to have reserved their rights to file counterplans, and the applicant, and Manti agreed that the applications of each would, for procedural purposes, be deemed counterplans to each other's, and would request that both dockets be consolidated for hearing.

A minor correction was made to the plat attached to the Pre-Application notice, and a copy of the revised plat is attached hereto. This revised plat was presented at the conference. Also enclosed to the Commissioner of Conservation and District Manager **ONLY** are a list of Interested Owners, Interested Parties and Represented Parties to whom a copy of this notice is being sent. Copies of this list will be provided upon request. A reasonable effort has been made to ascertain the names and addresses of all Interested Owners, Interested Parties or Represented Parties.

In addition to furnishing the legal notice to all Interested Owners, Represented Parties and Interested Parties, the applicant will provide for posting of the legal notice of the hearing and unit plats in a prominent place in the area of Back Ridge Field. Additionally, the legal notice will be

Honorable James H. Welsh
Commissioner of Conservation
Page 3


published in a newspaper of general circulation in the vicinity of Back Ridge Field, at least fifteen (15) days before the hearing date.

All pertinent data relating to this proposed application may be obtained **AT THE COST OF THE REQUESTING PARTY** from Louis Gilbert & Associates, Inc., 3636 N. Causeway Blvd., Suite 204, Metairie, LA 70002, (337) 834-8112.

Also enclosed is our check payable to the Office of Conservation, representing the required hearing application fee.

Very truly yours,

STRAIN, DENNIS & BATES, L.L.P.



William S. Strain

WSS/cmf
encls.

cc: Mr. Richard Hudson
District Manager
Lafayette, Louisiana

Interested Owners
Represented Parties
Interested Parties

